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Coronavirus (COVID-19) Update - April 17, 2020

Bexar County order requires use of face coverings and occupancy limits for businesses

Bexar County announced a supplemental executive order, which is effective Sunday, April 19 at 11:59 p.m. through April 30, 2020 at 11:59 p.m. and includes the City of Helotes. The supplemental order mandates that all people, ages 10 years and over, use face cloth coverings when in public places where it is difficult to maintain six feet apart social distancing. Such places may include grocery stores or essential businesses where proximity to coworkers or the public are evident. Essential businesses will be required to provide face coverings for essential workers and training for the use of such coverings. Face coverings are not a replacement for social distancing, frequent handwashing, and self-isolation when sick.

The coverings may include homemade masks, bandanas, or other cloth coverings and should fully cover a person's nose and mouth. For more information about how to make a cloth face covering or to learn more about how to properly wear and care for the covering, visit the Center for Disease Control (CDC) website at cdc.gov/coronavirus. Face coverings are not required during physical activity or exercising outdoors, when riding in a vehicle with members of the same household, when wearing such covering would pose a mental or physical safety concern, while pumping gas, eating or drinking, or while participating in activities that require surveillance. Furthermore, it is not recommended that individuals use N95 or other medical grade masks, as they should be reserved for health care workers only. Click here to read the full Bexar County executive order for details.

The order also mandates that essential business maintain no more that 25% of the total allowable occupancy within its location at any time. If the business expects to reach maximum capacity, then notices must be posted to alert staff and the public to these occupancy limits. Such essential businesses including food retailers, restaurants, household good suppliers, gas stations, etc.

To learn more about this supplemental order, visit the <u>Bexar County website</u> or contact the City of Helotes at <u>publicrelations@helotes-tx.gov</u>.